

Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC)

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), DOT.

ACTION: Notice of establishment of the Single Engine-IMC-with passengers ARAC Working Group.

SUMMARY: Notice is given of the establishment by the Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee of an ARAC working group to examine the feasibility of conducting single-engine passenger carrying operations in instrument meteorological conditions (IMC) under Part 135 of the Federal Aviation Regulations. This notice informs the public of the activities of the ARAC and seeks the public's participation.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Quentin J. Smith, Jr., Executive Director for Air Carrier Operations Issues, Flight Standards Service (AFS-200), 800 Independence Ave. SW., Washington, DC 20591; telephone (202) 267-8166, FAX: (202) 267-5230.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) has established an Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee (ARAC) (56 FR 2190, January 22, 1991; and 58 FR 9230, February 19, 1993). One area that the ARAC deals with is air carrier operations. Other working groups in this area have dealt with issues such as autopilot takeoff minimum altitudes, fuel requirements, controlled rest on the flight deck, noise abatement, and flight crewmember flight/rest/duty requirements. The Single Engine-IMC-with passengers Working Group is being established to evaluate the safety aspects and overall feasibility of allowing passenger carrying operations in IMC with single engine aircraft. The Single Engine-IMC-with passengers Working Group will forward its recommendations to the ARAC, which will then determine whether to forward them to the FAA.

Specifically, the Working Group's task is as follows:

(1) Review the Canadian policy authorizing single engine IMC operations in turbine-powered airplanes and make recommendations for adoption.

(2) Re-examine existing policies for commercial IMC and/or night operations by single-engine aircraft.

(3) Determine the conditions and/or limitations which should be met before commercial air transport IMC and/or night operations by single-engine aircraft could be permitted.

(4) When considering the applicability of such operations, include both airplanes and helicopters (both turbine and reciprocating engines), passenger carriage (FAA), passenger/cargo carriage (JAA).

(5) Consider and dispose of any petitions for rulemaking or exemption on this subject.

(6) If, after completing the review, changes are recommended, develop and submit any needed advisory material or notice of proposed rulemaking in final form.

The Working Group should recommend time line(s) for completion of the task, including the rationale, for consideration at the meeting of the ARAC to consider air carrier operations issues held following publication of this notice.

The Working Group will give a status report on the task at each meeting of the ARAC held to consider air carrier operations issues.

The Single Engine-IMC-with passengers Working Group will be comprised of experts from those organizations having an interest in the tasks assigned. A Working Group member need not necessarily be a representative of one of the member organizations of the ARAC. Individuals who have expertise in the subject and wish to become a member of the Working Group should write the person listed under the caption **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** expressing that desire, describing their interest in the task, and the expertise they would bring to the Working Group. The request will be reviewed with the ARAC Assistant Chair for Air Carrier Operations and the Chair of the Single Engine-IMC-with passengers Working Group, and the individual will be advised whether or not the request can be accommodated.

The Secretary of Transportation has determined that the formation and use of the ARAC are necessary in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties of the FAA by law. Meetings of the ARAC to consider air carrier operations issues will be open to the public except as authorized by section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act. Meetings of the Single Engine-IMC-with passengers Working Group will not be open to the public except to the extent that individuals with an interest and expertise are

selected to participate. No public announcement of Working Group meetings will be made.

Issued in Washington, DC, on October 13, 1994.

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Assistant Executive Director for Air Carrier Operations Issues, Aviation Rulemaking Advisory Committee.

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